

THE AMERICAN

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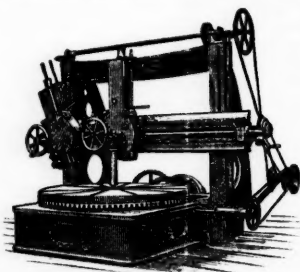
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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1886.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE weather takes precedence of every other topic this week. The close of February and the opening days of March witnessed a gale of such violence and prolongation as was almost terrific. Day and night the wind raged as though it were never to abate, beginning with a moderate temperature from the northwest, and increasing in coldness and penetrating power as it veered due north, without losing its violence. Never did winter seem to impress itself more powerfully upon body and mind, and the only comfort left us was that "the oldest inhabitant" could recall nothing like it from the prodigious treasures of his elastic memory. For once the wind seemed to have acquired that "gift of continuance" on which some of the old Puritan preachers are said to have prided themselves. It did not seem to know when to leave off.

The amount of suffering and loss from the gale was very considerable, far less than if it had been blowing from the southeast, or even from the northeast upon our inhospitable coast. Its power is roughly indicated by the fact that the ocean steamers which should have left New York last Saturday could not sail until Monday. The force of the wind on the bar had beaten down the waters to a shallowness which made it impossible for vessels of great draught to get out.

OF Mr. Cleveland's extraordinary message to the Senate we have spoken elsewhere. The views we there express are those of the Republican and Independent papers generally. *The Times* of New York is the only important paper of the latter class which dissents. Even *Harper's Weekly* agrees that Mr. Cleveland has no case as against the demands of the Senate for the papers on file in the departments.

THE Senate has refused to confirm Messrs. Chase and Pillsbury as Collectors at Portland and Boston, because of their share in the Garcelon iniquity. They are understood to be prepared to deal in the same way with Mr. Goode, the new Solicitor-General, who was given a seat in the House of Representatives by a partisan reversal of the popular vote that defeated him. Mr. Zach. Montgomery, the wild person from the Pacific Coast, afflicted with a rabies against public schools, but stuck in, by some extraordinary theory, as Solicitor for the Interior Department, is also likely to go the same road.

On the other hand Mr. Hedden will probably be confirmed Collector of the Port of New York, there being no conclusive reason against him. The commission of his predecessor, (Mr. Robertson), had expired, so that there was no suspension element in that instance.

It is quite evident that there will be no legislation on international copyright this year, the League for the promotion of this object having once more refused the advice given it to bring forward a purely author's copyright measure. They preferred a very neat, plausible and simple bill, which on closer inspection was found to sacrifice very important interests, and to give British publishers a monopoly of the greatest book market in the world. We regret this extremely. We are at one with the League as to the object it has in view, though not as to its reasons or its methods. And we emphatically condemn the doctrines put forward by Mr. Roger Sherman and others in a circular, in which international copyright in every form is opposed. This circular takes the ground that the interest of the American people in the cheapness of books is the only one to be considered, and that international copyright is to be rejected as opposed to that. We object to this very first

premise, and on Protectionist grounds. The first and foremost interest of the American people is in the development of a native literature through the proper encouragement of native authors. The liberty to reprint foreign books without paying for them stands very seriously in the way of that interest. Publishers naturally prefer a reprint of a book for which they have to pay nothing, to taking the risks on an American book for which they must pay. As a consequence there is no country in which it is so hard to get a native book printed. By far the greatest part of the so-called publishing trade of this country is mere agency for authors, who have had all the expenses of manufacturing the book. It is to put an end to this and secure American authors a chance that we need international copyright.

MR. SHERMAN has done well to call attention to the report made in 1881 by Special Agent H. L. Williams on the undervaluation of books imported into the United States. The report is one of great interest and value, and yet by some peculiar management it has been withheld from the public for five years. There is every reason to believe that it will now be published. Mr. Williams reaches the conclusion that books imported from England are invoiced at more than 50 per cent. below their market value, and that the difference thus saved on the duty is divided between the English or Scotch publisher and his confederates, the American agent.

The American book trade, he says, is largely controlled by foreign publishers through the coöperation of publishing houses in America and American branches of English houses. One of the devices of the foreign publisher is to sell unbound sheets of a work to an American house at a rate from 70 to 88 per cent. less than the retail price of the bound work, though the binding would not account for any such difference, and these sheets are usually printed on paper a little thinner or otherwise different from that used in the regular edition, and the undervaluation is excused on the ground that there is no market price for this particular edition abroad. Another device for cheating the revenue is for the American publisher to import stereotype plates invoiced to him far below cost, and pay the English publisher a royalty. He gives a price-list of the Blacks of Edinburgh, which is marked "For the Export Trade," and in which an atlas worth \$10.67 in quantities is invoiced at \$9.00 for single copies, with other scandalous examples.

He proposes that the American duty be levied on the published retail price—the rate at which it is charged by importers to any American scholar or book-buyer, who orders an English or German book.

This report is enough to show that the piracy in the international book trade takes other forms than unauthorized reprints.

MR. MORRISON's measure of diagonal tariff reform bids fair to go the same way as his horizontal bill. The Committee of Ways and Means have fixed a date—March 15th—until which they will hear from the representatives of interests which think the reductions proposed would affect them injuriously. It would have been franker to have said with the Church of the Latter Day Saints that the other side's opinion is not wanted. There are no signs of any rally of public opinion of any kind to the support of the measure, although a Free Trade organization in Washington is trying to manufacture such opinion by tracts and discussions. If these gentlemen had anything new to say their labors might bear fruit. But they only repeat the old wooden calculations and deft maxims which have made the staff of Free Trade literature for half a century past.

MR. BLAIR'S bill for the extinction of illiteracy by aid to the schools of those states in which it abounds, has elicited opposition in quite unexpected quarters. While the demand for it increases in the south, and has overborne the objections brought by many Southern Congressmen, there is an increasing opposition in Republican quarters, of which Mr. Hawley and Mr. Ingalls are the chief exponents in the Senate. It seems to be feared that the outlay of national money in the schools will have some bad effects. It may make the people of the states which get it less ready to tax themselves for school purposes. It may be diverted exclusively to the education of the whites, while the black voters are left in ignorance. And so forth.

We submit that if all these evil results were not only possible but probable, and not only probable but certain, it would still be the duty of the government to vote this money. We cannot afford illiteracy in the Southern voter. We have thrown upon the South a burden in this respect which it declares itself unable to bear. We owe it to the South to give it the chance of doing its duty by the uneducated voter of whatever color. If the means we offer should be abused, it is in the power of Congress to rescind the offer. The precedent set in 1837, when the fourth instalment of the distribution of the surplus was refused to the states, would apply in this case also. The knowledge that it would apply would furnish a safeguard as to the wise and proper appreciation of this grant. Mr. Allison prepares an amendment which binds each state to bestow the money proportionally without reference to the color of the illiterate population. We deprecate that amendment. We think that a little show of confidence in the justice, prudence and good sense of the Southern people, in a matter which does not directly affect politics, might be a good investment. And the want of such confidence may go far to rob the grant of its highest uses.

OUR Boston contemporary *The Advertiser*, which opposes Mr. Blair's bill, resents the idea that Massachusetts should receive any part of the grant, and suggests that her share go to educating the Western Indians. To this *The Springfield Republican* replies that "this high tide of pride is all very well for Boston, where they spend \$30 or \$40 a year per pupil, but how about the poor country towns which require aid from the State, but which the State seems never ready to aid?"—and *The Boston Journal* says: "The truth is that in many of the smaller towns the school expenditures represent a very considerable sacrifice on the part of the people, and even these are not adequate to provide such educational facilities as should be furnished. In these towns population is sparse and growing sparser; taxes are high and growing higher. The best equipped school systems in our cities do not begin to represent the burden to the people of the cities which is represented by the comparatively ill equipped school systems of these towns to the people of the towns. Last year and this a proposition has been earnestly pressed upon the Legislature for a special tax to be so distributed as to equalize, in a measure, these burdens. If the Blair bill should pass we think that good use could be made of the money appropriated, even in Massachusetts." These statements remarkably confirm our arguments for a general distribution of the national surplus as a relief to the burdens of State and local taxation. It is not only the school tax whose pressure is felt in Massachusetts. The other fiscal burdens press very heavily upon her people, and lead to all sorts of evasions on the part of her tax-paying populations, the favorite one being a temporary residence in some town where the assessor is known not to be exacting.

THE tendency of our foreign trade continues bad, and apparently grows worse. One would think that there ought to be some concern about it, but apparently there is very little. Our exports,—largely on account of the slack sales and low prices of grain,—are shockingly low, while our imports of foreign goods have very considerably increased. The returns from the Treasury Department to the end of January show that for the twelve

months then ending the comparative movement of merchandise was as follows:

	Exports	Imports.
1884-5	755,909,405	\$617,172,414
1885-6	665,676,776	660,749,374
Decrease in exports	\$90,232,629	
Increase in imports		\$43,576,960

Showing a net loss of \$133½ millions in the year's operations, when compared with the previous year's, and disclosing the cheerful fact that whereas the balance of trade in our favor at the end of January, 1885, was 138½ millions, it was this year scarcely 5 millions. No wonder gold is going away from us: how could it stay? And no wonder tariff-tinkering cranks and Free Trade quacks think it high time to lower duties so that imports may further increase!

The forthcoming report of the Director of the Mint contains the following estimates of the stock and ownership of gold and silver coin in the United States, January 1, 1886:—

OWNERSHIP.	GOLD.	SILVER.	TOTAL.
Treasury,	\$75,434,379	\$100,335,155	\$175,769,534
National Banks,	156,353,592	9,000,805	165,354,397
State Banks, Trust Companies, and			
Savings Banks,	31,255,789		31,255,789
Other Banks and private hands,	290,766,388	183,957,912	474,724,300
Total,	553,810,148	293,293,872	\$847,104,020

* Less outstanding gold or silver certificates.
 † Includes Treasury and clearing house certificates.
 ‡ Includes silver certificates.
 § Reported to comptroller of the currency by 1015 banks, November 1, 1885; includes some silver.

To this may be added \$72,923,721 in gold bullion and \$4,611,078 in silver bullion owned by the government, making a total of coin and bullion \$924,638,819. But the statement as to the amount of gold and silver coin outside the Treasury and the banks is a matter of pure guess work. It ought to be possible to ascertain the exact amount, and would be if we took the census on a single day as the United Kingdom does.

It is noticeable that the amount of deposits in our savings banks, owned mainly by the laboring classes, exceeds the whole amount of gold, silver and bullion available for coinage. It is \$968,000,000. Fifty years ago it was \$6,000,000.

THE work of converting the Indians into owners of land in severalty is one which should proceed with slowness and caution. It is one which is essential to their liberation from the slavery of the tribal condition; but as common ownership is the atmosphere in which they have been trained, it is not easy for them at once to undertake a new mode of life. The best way would be to make every Indian free to withdraw his share from the common stock of land, etc., as soon as he feels that he is ready for this step, and yet to forbid him to alienate his land by sale, while he is left free to lease a part of it for a short term to any tenant. He needs monetary resources in the inception of his farming, and merely to give him land is to hand him over to starvation.

OHIO has passed a new law for the taxation of the liquor traffic. It differs from that which the Supreme Court of the State declared unconstitutional in some particulars suggested by that decision. But there can be little doubt that if that court consisted of the same judges, the new law would be found as unconstitutional as the old. It was the belief that that and some other decisions were dictated by partisan rather than legal considerations, that led the people of the State to choose new judges last fall. The new bench has a Republican majority, and it has already given the state a taste of its quality. It has sustained the governor in removing from office the police commissioners of Cincinnati, who are responsible for very much of the misgovernment of that city. Perhaps their worst offence was in reappointing a lieutenant of police, whom President Cleveland had pardoned for gross offences against the election laws of the United States. It

will be pleasant for Mr. Cleveland to read that Governor Foraker alleged this as especially warranting his removal of the commissioners, and that the Supreme Court approved.

A VERY remarkable convention was that which assembled in Philadelphia, at the Pennsylvania Railroad station, on Tuesday—three hundred delegates representing the Company's employees in every department, duly elected and sent to confer with the Company's officials concerning the proposed Relief and Insurance System. Such a convention, under like circumstances, we imagine was never before held in this country, and probably in no other in the world. The clearness and force with which the men made their statements are said to have been very notable features, and the impression which they made was just such as justifies the pride of this country in its working people, the product of civil freedom, public education, and protected industry. It is understood that the men were substantially unanimous in their disapproval of the plan proposed by the Company, partly because of objections to details, but chiefly because they were already associated with other relief and beneficial organizations, or were provided with life insurance. The Company's reception of them, and the arrangements for their comfort and convenience during the convention, were such as did credit to it, and tended both to promote good feeling, and to increase the *morale* of the men,—which has always been high, and has been one of the causes of the Pennsylvania Railroad's success.

THAT the Plan will be dropped altogether by the railroad authorities looks very probable, and this would be the most graceful step for them. They had already made one important concession, before the convention, by making membership in the proposed association entirely voluntary, both for those who are already in the road's service and those who may hereafter enter. It was understood that this concession was made necessary by the attitude of the engineers and firemen, who would otherwise have been likely to strike against the Plan.

THE plan of the "Syndicate" for the reorganization of the Reading Railroad continues to occupy public attention, and the kaleidoscopic changes in the situation described by the daily newspapers have been at least entertaining. For a time the Syndicate's work seemed to be dragging, and for one particular space of twenty-four hours Mr. Gowen posed as a Colossus, bestriding everything and holding the Vanderbilt stock triumphantly aloft as Liberty will her beacon torch on Bedloe's Island. What odds it made who held the Vanderbilts hares, or any other worthless property, was one of the problems, but the explanation has been about what might have been expected—that somebody, at Mr. Gowen's instance, acquired the shares, and when the public gaped sold them at a fractional profit. The situation of the Reading is not one to be controlled from the stock end, and apparently not altogether from the general mortgage ground, either, but that it will be reached in some way, by some combination of those classes of its creditors whose liens are well secured, there can be no reasonable doubt.

SOME announcement is made,—though not, so far as we are aware, by his authority,—that Mr. Grow will appear as a candidate for the United States Senate from Pennsylvania, to succeed Mr. Mitchell. As we have heretofore said, Mr. Mitchell may with propriety make his own claim for a re-election, but in any event, the fitness of things demands that the Senator, whoever he may be, shall come from that element in the party which his election in 1881 represented, and which Mr. Oliver did not represent. Mr. Grow has the prestige of honorable and independent Republican service, and if he means to take the field, will be welcomed, no doubt, by many friends.

THE city of Philadelphia has now definitely lost the services of Col. Ludlow, who for three years has been Chief Engineer of the Water Department, his term having expired last week. That

this is a misfortune is generally agreed; how great remains to be determined after seeing what course is taken by his successor, Mr. Ogden, who has been his assistant. Mr. Ogden gives an appearance, at the outset, of following Col. Ludlow's general line, but this he may or may not adhere to. The question concerning him is whether he has the engineering skill the energy, the discretion, and the moral courage which are all demanded by the place, and which good intentions are by no means enough to represent. Col. Ludlow leaves the city in a much better way in regard to its water supply, even though no great work of improvement has yet been accomplished, for he has drawn public attention to its great deficiencies, has helped to form a clear idea of the practicable methods of remedy and has in fact put the whole business in such shape that it can be intelligently dealt with.

IT is a trifle curious, in view of the insignificance of Philadelphia, and her singular lack of force in any direction, that New York should have been in spasms of apprehension for nearly a month, lest certain audacious Philadelphians should devour her.

WHAT is also curious is that New York, which was proposed as our model, is now said to be corruptly governed. It appears from the newspapers of that city that certain members of the Board of Aldermen are under suspicion of having been bribed by a person named Sharp, (not a Philadelphian, of course, with such a name), and that the case is so plain that only wholesale perjury prevents its being legally proven. Indeed it is said in the same journals that on Tuesday of this very week the Aldermen again acted as if they had been bought up, handing out charters for cable railroads, seventy miles long, with the most shameless prodigality and lack of deliberation. Is it possible that there has been a mistake in proposing New York as the model? Let us hear from the "provincialism" experts.

THE audacity of Mr. Gladstone in forming a ministry from which the Whigs are omitted, has made that group of Liberal politicians too angry to be consoled by the recollection of the dignity of their position. Perhaps their discovery that they have become too weak in numbers to count for much, adds to their anger. So Sir Henry James addresses to his constituents a manifesto condemning Mr. Gladstone's leanings toward Home Rule, declaring he could not take the office proffered him under such a ministry, and foretelling woes upon the Liberal party for having accepted such a leader. Perhaps Mr. Gladstone may give Sir Henry an opportunity to address these same constituents on a much more solemn occasion. It is just within the range of possibility that the next dissolution will be upon the Home Rule issue, and that the Whigs will come to the Parliament after this one a still smaller handful than they now are. And if the Liberal party is to be honeycombed by intrigues such as have rallied the Welsh members against the Home Rule proposal, the day of dissolution cannot be far off. All the indications seem to prove that Mr. Gladstone can slaughter this group of Adullamites as easily and as completely in a general election, as he did that coach-load which Robert Lowe carried off in 1869.

A NUMBER of wise persons lay hold of a suggestion of Mr. Freeman's that if Ireland is entitled to Home Rule within the Empire, then Ulster is entitled to Home Rule within Ireland. In the arguments to this effect the northern province is always described as Protestant and loyalist. Ulster once was both; now it is neither. The Catholic population of the province very considerably outnumbers the Protestant. That the Home Rulers outnumber the loyalists is shown by the fact that a majority of the members of Parliament elected from Ulster are Home Rulers, and two of the constituencies saved by the Tories were held by a very small majority. The constituencies which did not vote for Home Rule in Ulster make up a strip along the coast from Londonderry to a little below Belfast. Antrim is the only whole country; half of Down, and thin pieces of Armagh, Tyrone and Derry are the

rest. And should the movement of population in the future be like that in the past, every one of these constituencies will be nationalized at no distant date. To talk of Home Rule for such an Orange patch on the green island is absurd.

THE fact that the toast to the health of the Queen was hissed at a dinner given by the London workingmen to the members of Parliament of their own class, is not without its significance. The truth is that for fully a quarter of a century the Queen's popularity has been upon the wane. She has been queen in name only, without doing the honors of her position. She has accepted all its emoluments, without discharging its duties. There has been nothing in her public attitude, and very little in the conduct of her children, to conciliate the public regard. So unpopular is she that her youngest daughter's husband finds it a misfortune to be her son-in-law, so far as popular regard goes. The poor young fellow has been badgered unmercifully by all classes, because this furnished the easiest way of working off their dislike for the Queen's ways.

The Standard, the organ of English conservatism and orthodoxy, gives her majesty a very plain hint that the time has come when she must turn a new leaf: "It is time to say publicly what everybody has been saying privately for many years, that the Queen and the country over which she rules have been too long separated, and that the separation cannot be continued much longer without serious and lasting injury both to the throne and the community. There is no room in the English constitution for a sovereign who lives in almost complete seclusion."

SECRETARY TREVELYAN is to bring in a bill for the relief of the Crofters of the Highlands and the Western Islands on much the same lines as the Irish land law of 1881. There is to be fair rent determined by expert authority, fixity of tenure while the rent is paid, and compensation for unexhausted improvements. This will not satisfy the Highlanders. They want the government to take steps to break up the deer forests, into which the north of Scotland has been converted. They say the evils of the Highland land tenure have gone too far for remedies such as these. They are even worse off than are the Irish people throughout a great part of that island; for Ireland never has been converted into game preserves, and the British game laws never have been introduced into Ireland. Hence it is that while poaching and the punishment of poaching play so great a part in England and Scottish difficulties between landowner and tenant, they are not mentioned in that connection in Ireland.

It is reported that Lord Salisbury had all but completed a bargain with the Turks by which Crete was to be given to England, partly for a money payment and partly as a reward for holding back Greece from war. If so, Mr. Gladstone's accession to power put a stop to that little plan. He is too good a Philo-Hellene to consent to the alienation of Hellenic territory to any power but Greece.

MR. CLEVELAND'S LETTER TO THE SENATE.

THE difference which has arisen between the Senate and the Executive is both emphasized and defined by the letter which Mr. Cleveland sent the Senate on Monday. It is now perfectly plain,—though it has at no time been obscure,—in what the controversy consists.

Briefly, the Senate calls upon the heads of departments, in certain cases of nomination to office, for the papers on file in that department relative to the discharge of the duties of that office hitherto. In full the resolution upon which the issue is made up reads:

Resolved, That the Attorney-General of the United States be, and he hereby is, directed to transmit to the Senate copies of all documents and papers that have been filed in the Department of Justice since the first day of January, A. D. 1885, in relation to the management and conduct of the

office of District-Attorney of the United States for the Southern District of Alabama.

In this case, and in others similar, the heads of departments decline to furnish the papers, alleging that they do so by direction of the President, and the latter has now sent his letter arguing the whole subject at length, and anticipating such explanations as would have been offered by the Senators of his party. That this letter is itself an extraordinary document can scarcely be questioned, and while its sending is justified in some quarters as "a shrewd move," and its temper is described as "Jacksonian," it must be admitted, we think, that unless the Senate was very much more in the wrong, and the President very much more in the right, history would set it down as a proceeding both inappropriate and unwise. The President of the United States should not be involved in contention with the Senate of the United States of such sort that an unasked letter, unjustified by the descriptions of his duties and functions in the constitution, could be at all worth writing. If he held an impregnable position, a letter would not be required; a position reasonably assailable he should not take.

Now the latter is Mr. Cleveland's case. He has made a muddle of his work, and, in a style which must remind people of that very vigorous quarreler, Mr. Andrew Johnson, he wants to argue with his country, by way of the Senate. That was Mr. Johnson's weakness. He was perpetually arguing his case, and continually vaunting his own independence, purity of motive, and hold upon the people. From 1866 to 1869 he favored the public with so much of that sort, that there will be, we are sure, a universal hope that we are not to undergo the like again.

The substance of Mr. Cleveland's letter is that the purpose of the inquiry by the Senate is to uncover his "reasons" for suspending certain U. S. officials, and that these reasons are entirely his business; that, further, the papers which he has placed on file in the departments relating to such suspensions are not public documents at all, but merely papers belonging to him as President, which, for his own convenience, he has deposited there, and which he may remove if he chooses, and destroy, but which the Senate has no business to see. "Many of them," he quaintly states, "are so irrelevant, or, in the light of other facts, so worthless, that they have not been given the least weight in determining the question to which they are supposed to relate," and he apparently considers it his duty to guard the Senate from being misinformed and misled by them, though why he should think it needful to use the public departments as a place of safe deposit for such foolish and mischievous pieces of writing it is hard to see.

Plainly, the President is on the wrong track. He has made a false step. In the matter of suspensions and appointments, in view of the pretensions made in his behalf, in 1884, and of the assurances which he himself gave, he is bound to act not only in the spirit of true reform, but to do so with openness and candor. He ought to be glad to exhibit the evidence upon which he makes suspensions. When he creates a vacancy, the reason for it should be one on which he is perfectly willing to take his stand, openly and publicly. In that case he could and certainly would send the Senate every paper on file in the public offices relating to it. He would not think of telling the Secretaries to hold some of the papers fast and keep them secret. He would not think of writing extraordinary letters to argue that they belonged to him, personally, and were not for public use. He would not think it "a shrewd move," or good policy in any sense, to leave it in doubt why he put a man out of office, in the midst of the term for which he had been appointed.

The unfortunate part of the whole affair, for the President, is just as well known and well understood as if he gave out these papers instead of holding them. The public know that he has suspended capable and satisfactory officials upon frivolous or false charges, or without any reason whatever. He was pledged not to do such things, and the opinion of the country is against doing them. He had, morally, no right to do them. That he resisted, in some cases, the demands of partisans who came swarm-

ing at him, does not affect his record in those instances where he yielded. But he evidently thinks it should. He thinks that as he did not complete a "clean sweep" before the 1st of April, 1885, he should not be investigated in regard to the sweep which he began to make, and that the Senate in calling for papers in the departments which may disclose how far he carried it, and with what measure of impropriety, is doing a very scandalous thing.

It must be said, not only that the Senate has not been too exacting and too stiff with regard to confirmations, but that it has given, at times, less assurance of firmly supporting civil service reform than the country would have been glad to see. It has confirmed hundreds of nominations, without limitation, and we have been told again and again that some Senators meant to vote to confirm all nominations, unless in any instance there was special proof offered of unfitness or bad character,—that they did not care to help establish stability of tenure, or to help prevent partisan changes. That sort of policy would give away, fatally, the betterment of the public service, and that it would abandon the ground assumed by the Republican party goes without saying. That the Senate stops to query, therefore, in the suspension cases, and that it wants to have the papers relating to them laid before it, is but a moderate performance of its duty; while the anxiety of the Executive to keep his "reasons" hidden would be ludicrous if it did not relate to a serious public matter.

THERE is one feature in some of these confirmations and rejections which is not reassuring: it looks as if the old idea still prevailed that the Senators from the State where the office is located had a right to make the decision. It is observable that in the Chase case, relating to Maine, Messrs. Frye and Hale demanded rejection; that in the Pillsbury case, (Massachusetts), Messrs. Hoar and Dawes took the same position; that in Hedden's case, Messrs. Miller and Evarts are said to be both favorable; and that in the case of Mr. I. Freeman Rasin, who has been confirmed as Naval Officer at Baltimore, though he eminently deserved rejection, the Maryland Senators stood together for him,—he being, in fact, one of Mr. Gorman's "workers," and a very skilful hand. It is sad enough if this old system, the "Senatorial courtesy" of Mr. Roscoe Conkling, still vigorously survives. Public executive sessions would cure the evil, no doubt.

THE LAW AND THE LABORER.

THE Senate of Massachusetts has passed a law requiring employers in that state to pay their workmen not less often than once a week. Several of our states have such a law already, and all of them ought to have it. It is desired by the workmen very generally, but they are not able to constrain their employers to take the additional trouble and the small expense it would involve. They know that intemperance, thriftlessness and debt are the outcome of monthly and quarterly payments. The workman who has a whole month's or quarter's earnings in hand is easily misled into useless expenditures, from which weekly payments would protect him. If money came to him in smaller sums, he would feel the smallness of the margin between actual earnings and the necessities of life, as he does not feel it.

This is one of the many points at which far-seeing and philanthropic legislation departs from the Free Trade ideal. The Free Trader objects to any interference with labor, or at least with adult labor, in its relations to capital. When legislation to determine the length of a day's labor, especially for women in factories, was proposed in England by Lord Ashley—afterwards the good Earl of Shaftesbury—the Free Traders voted against it almost solidly. Mr. Bright defends his vote to this day, and says he went with Sir Robert Peel in opposing it. But the conscience of England was too much for her Political Economy. The philanthropists, with the help of the Tories, carried the day, to the great joy of Mr. Carlyle. And England has on her statute book a long series of excellent laws, every one of which is in flat defiance of her Free Trade professions. Some English manufacturers maintain that the loss

of foreign markets, and even to a great extent of the home market, is due to these laws. They say England would not be importing £70,000,000 worth of foreign manufactures every year, if they could work their "hands" as many hours and under as unsafe conditions as the Germans can.

America generally has followed English example in this matter, in legislation for the health and safety of her working people. But our systems of inspection to enforce the laws are much less efficient than hers, and our trades' unions generally have not taken any steps to increase this efficiency. In both countries, for instance, there have been many evasions of the law which forbids payment by store orders, and requires payment in lawful coin. A trades' conference in England three years ago brought out the fact that in Midland England the "truck system" of payment is still in vogue in many parts of the Midland counties. The strike of the coke-workers in Western Pennsylvania this winter shows that the law of our state in this matter is broken as shamefully as is the law in England. Several of the strikers in this case are in jail for acts of violence committed during the strike. But there has been neither fine nor imprisonment for the masters who set their workmen the bad example of lawlessness by paying for work in orders and not in money.

The Sunday laws and the ten hours law are made for the protection of the working people against the demands of capital. Both are ignored shamefully by many classes of employers. The freight traffic on Sunday on the railroads is an instance of needless toil exacted of workmen. The long hours demanded of our street-car drivers and conductors are in violation of the ten hours law. It was said by many employers, when the ten hours law was proposed in this state, that the business of manufacturing would be ruined, that the state had no right to interfere between the employer and his men, and that the hours of labor must be fixed by the laws of political economy. But it was remembered that from its very foundation the State of Pennsylvania has limited the days of work to a week, that it had allowed no appeal to "the laws of political economy" to overrule the Sunday laws, and that the country had not been ruined by the competition of others whose laborers knew no Sunday. So the law was passed without any of the dire results which were threatened, and what we now need is a more vigorous enforcement. And whether an eight hour law would be wise or unwise, the power of the state to pass such a law is beyond question. The Australian colonies have had such a law for several years, without being industrially ruined by it.

Whatever may be thought of a proposal to reduce ten hours of labor to eight, we think there is a strong case for supplementing Sunday with a half holiday for secular amusements. It would be calamitous to divest Sunday from its general use for the cultivation of the highest relations man can sustain. But so long as Sunday stands alone there is such a risk, which would be averted by setting aside Wednesday afternoon.

THREE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES.

SOME recent speculations as to the destination of the property accumulated by the followers of George Rapp, at Economy, in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, has aroused attention to the celibate communistic societies in the United States. Like the Shaker communities, the Harmonists, at Economy, adopted an absolute form of government, and the property is in the hands of autocratic, if not irresponsible, trustees. But the notion that German or American kinsman of Rapp or of the two venerable surviving trustees can set up any valid claim to inherit the property accumulated by the Harmonists on the death of these aged and infirm men, is probably wide of the mark. The communists at Economy renounced the right of private property under Rapp, before he induced them to take the vow of celibacy, and their accumulations are a trust for the joint benefit of the society. What view the courts would take of the matter is rather obviously indicated in the decisions which terminated the law-suits which began about fifty years ago. In 1831, six years after the society sold its Indiana settlement to Robert Owen and moved back into Pennsylvania to a point no long journey from the place where it first established itself, a German named Maximilian de Leon, and a pretended

count, arrived and found entrance into the little community. Rapp received him with cordiality, but Leon's restlessness and scheming led to a rupture, and the count drew off with adherents comprising nearly one-third of the community in the following year. After prolonged litigation the seceders obtained a final judgment awarding them \$105,000 as their share in the common property. In other words, the courts would undoubtedly hold that the estates, now comprising 3500 acres of land, with shops, warehouses and dwellings, are a trust for the common benefit, and not alienable by inheritance from the society. If the society should cease to exist, its affairs would be wound up like those of any other incorporation.

But the society is far from extinguishment. It is now seventy-nine years since Rapp induced his disciples to take the vow of celibacy, a period long enough to extinguish in the course of nature any like society which is not recruited from without. Yet on the Ohio river eighteen miles below Pittsburgh are two towns, separated one from the other in 1851, one called Economy and the other Harmony, chiefly composed of Rappists. Their united population is about 1600. The somewhat similarly constituted Shakers, who first pushed their settlements west of the Alleghenies in 1805, the year that George Rapp arrived in America, have abandoned but one of their eighteen villages formed in the course of their history,—that of Tyringham in Massachusetts. Although they have formed no new villages for more than fifty years, yet these celibate communities number at the present time nearly 2500. A wide-spread conviction is that the Shakers have increased in numbers by adoption of children, since their aggressive missionary work has ceased to bring them converts. But in their system there is another mode of recruiting. There are three classes in each community, known as the novitiate, the juniors and the seniors. The novitiates merely adhere to the dogmas, but not to the rule of discipline of the sect. They preserve their family relations and their personal fees in property; but they occupy apartments in the novitiate house, and participate in the religious services of the village. The juniors are those who have advanced to the practice of the society's rules except in the matter of personal possessions, the right to which they have not relinquished. The seniors are they who enter upon the complete celibate communism of the society. It will thus be seen that through the novitiate order the means of perpetuity and increase are provided, and that the strictly celibate orders are recruited therefrom. This sect, however, has long been steadily decreasing, for it has church sittings for nearly 9000 persons, which represents the more flourishing state of the society after Joseph Meacham's high executive ability had organized and directed the sect in the early part of this century. The wealth of the community, which is distributed among fifty-seven communes, or religious families, organized into seventeen villages, averages about \$4000 *per capita*, while the *per capita* rate of Rhode Island, the richest commonwealth of the Union as measured by this ratio, is only \$1200 in round numbers. The control of these communities is of the most absolute sort. It is lodged in a board of four persons at Lebanon, in New York State, although Watervliet, opposite Troy, is the parent settlement. This board consists of two men, one of whom is the superior, and of two women. But the superior is the potential chief, who may dismiss his colleagues and appoint others, and who selects his own successor. From this board proceed all the appointments to administrative functions through the whole society.

With regard to some of the historical facts of the Harmonists, and Shakers there are some prevalent mistaken impressions. Neither of them are indigenous. Rapp, whose birth is erroneously given in several popular works of reference as occurring in 1770, whereas it was thirteen years earlier, was a German, and migrated to America with quite a band of converts, at whose service he put his estate, not being able to organize a communistic society in Württemberg where he belonged by nativity. His scheme received notice from Byron, who wove all kinds of scraps into his cantos, when he wrote the latter part of Don Juan, while at Pisa in 1821.

"Why call'd he 'Harmony' a state sans wedlock?
And here I've got the preacher at a deadlock.
Because he either meant to sneer at harmony
Or marriage, by divorcing them thus oddly.
But whether reverend Rapp learn'd this in Germany
Or no, 'tis said his sect is rich and godly,
Pious and pure, beyond what I can term any
Of ours, although they propagate more broadly."

At this time the mystic sect had been established on the Wabash six years, and in America ten years longer. The society here owned 27,000 acres, but in 1825 sold it to Robert Owen on terms advantageous to themselves and which involved Owen in financial embarrassments from which he never entirely extricated himself.

As the Harmonists were an alien sect so were the Shakers. They existed in Manchester, England, from 1747 to 1774, and were

at first followers of Jane Wardley, who explained the contortions of some members of the Quaker meeting to which she belonged as spiritual gifts and ecstasies. Ann Lee, or more literally Mrs. Stanley, was an Englishwoman, and received the revelation that she was a second incarnation of Christ while lying in an English jail as a disorderly sectary. She had been one of Jane Wardley's disciples up to this time, but unable to impress her views upon the Shaking Quakers of Manchester, she led eight followers to New York, and in 1776 established her first society on the Hudson above Albany.

In both the societies named the most exciting conviction quickening them grew out of millennial views of Christ's second coming. Rapp enjoined his society to keep in constant readiness to migrate to Palestine upon the first news of Christ's descent upon Mount Olivet, and died in expectation of the speedy announcement of this event, although he survived the failure of William Miller's predictions for 1843, by four years. The followers of Ann Lee took the name in England of the "United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing." It requires some liveliness of imagination to recall the excitement growing out of this millenarian expectation, but it lingered well into the middle of this century. So long as it lasted these communistic societies had a point of contact with the public mind, and through those excitements gained their richest harvests. When one does revive in one's mind those past delusions, it is surprising to see how absolutely they have faded from the thought of this generation. And in fading away they have left these celebrated communities as crumbling monuments of a dead fanaticism. If they continue it will be on the grounds of the new political economy, which recognizes a moral element in economic relations, and so tends to make communal organization not a mere industrial scheme but a social life. It is said that among the Shakers are those progressive members who are willing to concede something from their rule of discipline whenever the times seem ripe for them to throw themselves into the communistic reorganization of labor.

Perhaps the latest form of religious communism that the United States has seen is the obscurest and least attractive. Eighteen years ago the little town of Viorle in the extreme southwest of Kansas was settled. Its pioneers were religious bigots who surrendered all personal ties to those of the community. They neither marry nor recognize family relations. They reject all civil law, and submit to their own regulations even to the extremity of capital punishment, it is said. A body of twelve, a number suggestive of a renewed apostolate, have charge of all affairs, assigning labors to the different members, allotting them their dwellings and apportioning their food and clothing. Luxury and fashion are repudiated even to the extent of sleeping on the ground. They are principled against trade and barter, and, of course, desire to cut themselves off from contact with a commerce-frenzied age and race. The town was located in a place as remote from the likelihood of encountering railways and traffic as the country then offered, and as yet it is isolated from highways and settlements. Yet in eighteen years it has increased to an estimated population of 1,000. The community is unintelligent and unambitious, and its interest lies in the disclosure it makes of the extend to which dull minds are touched with communistic infection.

D. O. K.

UNENFORCED LAWS.

FEW laws and strictly enforced was the saying which the ancients followed in their legislation; and, it seems, we might, with advantage, take the maxim to heart. The evils of over-legislation have been treated fully in many late articles on the subject, and it is not intended, here, to deal with the subject generally, but merely to show by a few examples the manner in which the statute books of Pennsylvania are overloaded with laws quite out of date and inapplicable to the present conditions of society. Nothing can cause more contempt for the useful laws of a state than the general neglect of others, outgrown by the wants of society, and the occasional enforcement of many of the laws hereafter mentioned, the universal violation of which is accepted by society at large, not only as not unlawful, but as a part of their rights as free born citizens, must necessarily seem an outrage to the person on whom the penalty is inflicted, and strike every mind as being in a high degree unjust.

Thus, by an act passed in April, 1797, it is provided that all bread shall be sold by the pound avoirdupois, and every baker shall keep, at his house, lawfully regulated scales and weights for the weighing of the same. If he fails to comply with the provisions of the statute, the contract for sale of the bread shall be void, and he shall be fined \$10.00 for every offence. The clerk of the markets is directed to discover and prosecute all offenders.

The general principle of the law is that where a statute inflicts a penalty for the doing of an act, it implies a prohibition,

and a contract in violation of it cannot be enforced. It has therefore been held in several cases that no recovery can be had for bread sold by the loaf.

In a like manner, by a statute of 1789, each keg of biscuit exported from the commonwealth shall contain seven pounds of good and merchantable biscuit, under a penalty of seven shillings for each keg sold in violation of the law. This renders invalid all contracts for a smaller amount.

By an act of 1774, any person who wantonly and without reasonable occasion discharges firearms or throws any fireworks on December 31st or New Year's day, or causes any one else to do the same, shall forfeit ten shillings for each offence.

By an act of 1720, all racing, running, pacing or trotting of horses, mares, and geldings, for money, goods or chattels, or other valuable things, shall be and are hereby declared to be common nuisances and offences against the state, and the authors, parties, and abettors thereof shall be prosecuted and proceeded against by indictment. Every horse used in the said race shall be forfeited and sold, and proceeds of sale of same paid into the county treasury. Any person who shall ask another to contribute to the making up of a purse to be trotted for, shall be liable to a fine of \$30.00; and also any person printing or setting up an advertisement of a horse race.

By various acts in relation to inn-keepers it is provided that "Every inn-keeper shall keep good entertainment for man and horse, under a penalty of five dollars for every case of neglect;" that he shall sell by wine measure to all persons drinking in his inn, and by beer measure to those who carry it off; that the justices of the peace of each county shall have full power to regulate the price of liquors sold at inns, and the food for horses, that the inn-keeper shall not give credit to any person whatsoever for liquor; and these provisions are enforced by appropriate penalties.

An act, perhaps more important than any of the above, is the act of 1784, which provides that "Any person who shall do or perform any worldly employment or business" on Sunday (works of necessity or charity only excepted) shall be liable to a fine of \$4.00 or imprisonment in the House of Correction for six days.

This act has been held to embrace every variety of worldly employment, whether within the exercise of a person's ordinary calling or not. The running of passenger cars, the driving of omnibuses; the shaving of his customers by a barber, the selling of goods, are within the prohibition of the statute.

The case of Sparhawk against the Union Passenger Railway Company, which was argued about 1877, arose where an injunction was asked to restrain the R. R. Company from running its passenger cars on Sunday. Judge Strong granted the injunction at *nisi prius*, but the Supreme Court dissolved it, holding that while the driving of street cars was within the prohibition of the statute, yet it did not warrant an injunction, as there was a remedy provided for in the act.

That may be a wise and useful law which provides that bread shall be sold by the pound; but when society encourages its violation to such an extent that it is never sold in any other way than by the loaf, and the law to the contrary is only familiar to a few lawyers, does it not seem a great hardship that a man shall be fined for selling by the loaf, or that he can have no recovery for the price of bread sold in that way?

So while horse-racing, or advertising and encouraging the same may have been common nuisances in the eyes of some of our puritanical law-givers, yet would it not be considered an outrage, by society in general, were the managers of our state and county fairs, or the various races which constitute part of the amusement of society, to be arrested under the provisions of the act?

It may be, indeed, that an inn-keeper should be required to keep good entertainment for man and horse, and that he should measure wine in a certain measure, or that the justices of the peace should have power to regulate the price of liquor, etc., but would not the public themselves cry out against any such law were it enforced?

And would not society be further outraged if all drivers of horse cars, cabs, vendors of papers, or cigars and tobacco, barbers and others, plying what we now consider proper occupations for Sunday, were prosecuted according to the provisions of the Sunday laws?

If the laws in the course of time would but abrogate themselves by disuse, all would be well, but they are as binding to-day as the day they were signed by the Governor. Time and custom obscures their existence until they suddenly come to light in some isolated instance to work hardship to some unfortunate person theretofore ignorant of their existence.

The question of the repeal of such statutes is rather different from the question of the propriety of enacting new laws on subjects which the general spirit of the public seems to call for, but on which the propriety of legislation is doubtful, owing to its collateral causes, and it must be conceded, we think, that laws of the charac-

ter we have mentioned should not be allowed to encumber the books in their present form, and that their enforcement at long intervals in the face of universal public custom to the contrary tends to arouse disgust in the minds of the people, and to lessen the respect for laws of real value.

The Legislature every session adds many new laws to the statute books, laws oftentimes valueless or injurious to society. Would it not be well for the members to examine the statutes passed by their legislative ancestors, and endeavor to have a few of them abolished before adding others?

SAMUEL WILLIAMS COOPER.

QUATRAINS.

TRANSCIENCE.

THE generations pass away
As when in autumn, withered leaves
Are hurried onward. Who, but grieves
That even leaves must have their day!

ENDURANCE.

THE measure of our human worth
Lies in the power of facing strife,—
Enduring pain, enduring life,—
The Body's death,—the Spirit's birth.

Faribault, Minn.

P. B. PEABODY.

WEEKLY NOTES.

IN Mr. Scudder's appreciative sketch of Elisha Mulford, (author of "The Nation," and "The Republic of God,") in the *Atlantic Monthly* for March, he relates one characteristic of Mr. Mulford which is entitled to particular notice in this quarter of the land. Thus:

Indeed, there was something humorously enjoyable in his way of regarding persons and places that had won his affection. He was most loyal to his own. He thought Pennsylvania unquestionably the foremost State in the Union, Susquehanna county the fairest of its divisions, and the distinct which took in Montrose and Friendsville the heart of the county.

It is a satisfaction, sure, to record such a man. The rule with those who have had his experience of large development in activity and public importance is too often to look back with contempt upon the rock from which they were hewn.

PROF. ROTHROCK, of the University, has been devoting a share of his time, for many weeks, to the preparation of a memoir of the late Eli K. Price, the relation which Mr. Price sustained as Trustee of the Michaux foundation with the courses of botanical lectures in the Park which the Doctor has made so popular, making it especially fit that the memorial should be thus prepared. Within a fortnight past, however, the Doctor has been obliged by sudden and severe illness to suspend his work and wait the reestablishment of strength for its resumption.

THE first of the proposed series of receptions at the rooms of the Historical Society, on the evening of the 25th, was well attended and passed off pleasantly, those present agreeing in praising especially the delightful accommodation for such a purpose afforded by the spacious rooms, with their fitting accessories of books, pictures and old furniture. The fact is entitled to remark that with all the provinciality of Philadelphia, and its shocking inferiority to all other places, there is no other of the numerous historical societies of the country so handsomely quartered as this, representing the State of Pennsylvania. Most of them, indeed, are insignificant, by comparison, in all their appointments and surroundings.

AN excellent selection has been made by the Philadelphia Board of Education, in appointing Dr. Franklin Taylor the Principal of the Boys' High School, in place of Prof. Riché, resigned. Dr. Taylor has been for several years one of the faculty, and he had had previously an extended and valuable experience in educational work elsewhere. Besides that, he is a man of full mind, whose acquaintance with the many-sidedness of knowledge is very much superior to the average even of cultivated people. Dr. Taylor is often spoken of as the brother of Bayard Taylor, which he is not, but his cousin: furthermore, he was the intimate friend of the poet, throughout the latter's life, and was one of the two venturesome and earnest young companions of his trip through Europe, in 1844, described in "Views Afoot."

MR. J. G. ROSENGARTEN'S address before the Pionier-Verein, of this city, reprinted subsequently in the *United Service Magazine*, has been issued in a handsome pamphlet of fifty pages from the

press of the J. B. Lippincott Co. Mr. Rosengarten has given a concise but comprehensive sketch of the services rendered by soldiers of German birth or descent in the several wars in which the United States has been concerned, and his studies of the subject have been the means of developing interest in and drawing attention to it. The first edition of the pamphlet is now practically exhausted, as we learn, and another, with considerable additions and corrections, and an index, making in all nearly a hundred pages, will be issued for sale.

It is curious that the earliest physicians of Philadelphia were nearly all identified with the comparatively small element of Welsh immigration. Dr. James J. Leveck, in his recent address before the Association of the resident physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital, called attention to this, which he well might, being descended himself directly from Dr. Edward Jones, one of the first settlers at Merion. The physicians who were here before 1700 included Thomas Lloyd, for some time Penn's deputy governor, a most amiable and excellent man, disinclined to the prominence of public life; Dr. Edward Jones, just mentioned, who was a "chirurgion," according to the old manner of classification, (and whose daughter married Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, one of the first four of the medical staff of the Hospital); and Dr. Griffith Owen, who is said to have had the most extensive practice of any physician in the city.

REVIEWS.

A HISTORY OF GERMAN LITERATURE by W. Scherer. Translated from the Third German Edition by Mrs. F. C. Conybeare. Edited by F. Max Müller. Two volumes. Pp. xii. and 401, vii. and 425. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

IF anywhere Solomon's saying about the "making of many books" finds an illustration, it is in German histories of the national literature. At the beginning of this century there was hardly a book on the subject worthy of mention. Now they are counted by scores and hundreds, and are of all degrees of merit and demerit. Some of them like Wachler's, Koch's, F. Horn's and F. Adelung's works, although now antiquated, were of great service in their day. The great majority were and are compends written out of previous compends, and not from any fresh study of the sources. The best on the whole are Henry Kurz's four volumes of selections and criticism, somewhat on the style of the Chambers' two volumes on English literature; the scholarly treatises of Gervinus, Koberstein, Wilhelm Wackernagel; Karl Goedeke's exhaustive history of German poetry; Julian Schmidt's bright, almost journalistic accounts of what has been done since Leibnitz's days; and the remarkably excellent and popular work by A. F. C. Vilmar, with its Catholic counterpart by Wilhelm Lindemann. It is rather surprising that Vilmar's book never has been translated. Like everything this rigorous High Lutheran did, it is first-rate of its kind. It is based on an actual study of all the important writers, and is not written at second hand. It contains some of the justest and most penetrating criticism in the German language. And withal it is thoroughly adapted to the general reader, as is shown by its extensive popularity. The copy before us is the sixteenth edition (1874), and several have appeared since.

English literature is remarkably barren even in translations of works on this subject. We have valuable essays by Carlyle and others on single writers, and in some periods. We have good sketches, like that which Max Müller prefixed to a volume of selections and reprinted in his "Chips." We have the "Historical Sketch of German Poetry" by Taylor, of Norwich, the "Outlines" by Gostwick and Harrison, and Mr. T. S. Perry's "From Opitz to Lessing,"—a sketch of the most barren period, and Mr. Jack's account of the Goethe and Schiller period. We may have omitted some notable books, but at this writing we can recall no others.

We have therefore the more reason to welcome this translation of Prof. Scherer's work, as supplying a real literary want. Its author has exceptional advantages for the preparation of the work. For years he has been occupied with special and preliminary studies, several of which appeared in the "Quellen und Forschungen" edited by himself and two other professors in the University of Strasburg. He has been a student of other literatures than that of Germany, as may be seen from his brief but admirable "History of English Literature" recently translated. He has lived in the intensely national atmosphere of the revived University of recovered Strasburg, without becoming Chauvinistic in the least. To German thoroughness in research he unites the possession of a good, clear style and some literary grace, and a just critical insight. We have tested him in this regard by his estimate of books with which we are closely acquainted, and if we were to find any fault with him it is that he is more sober and less

enthusiastic in praise than the case seems to call for. And this is a rare fault in a German.

Those who have been used to think that German literature begins with Lessing, and that the Nibelungenlied, Hans Sachs, Luther and Paul Gerhardt make up what went before, will find a wholesome corrective in Prof. Scherer's first volume. Rich as has been the productivity of German literature in the past century, we are inclined to doubt whether the Middle Ages were not in truth its greatest—as they certainly were its most joyous—epoch. Certainly if we subtract Goethe from the modern German poets, what is left is not equal to what the nation possessed in its earlier singers. Against Heine we may balance Walther von der Vogelweide; against Lessing, Schiller, Upland, Rückert, and the rest we may place Wolfram von Eschenbach, Hartmann von der Aue, Gottfried von Strasburg, and their contemporaries, without fearing the result of a fair comparison. Germany in its imperial days, and especial South Germany, was a land of song and of joyousness. It was only the institutional decay of the nation which put an end to this, changed fundamentally the character of the nation, and made the German a being of overwrought sensibility and readiness for tears. Germany, since the Thirty Years War culminated the miseries which began with the Great Interregnum, never has recovered its tone.

Of all the mediæval writers Wolfram von Eschenbach seems to us the greatest. Walther is the more graceful lyrist; but Wolfram interprets to us the deepest feeling of the Middle Ages, and yet in a fresh, humorous, original, way which keeps his poetry more alive to us than much that was written but yesterday. He was an epic poet mainly, but with the dramatic gift. He puts himself in the place of his heroes, makes us see with their eyes and feel with their hearts, and never wearies us with his diffuseness. And yet he could neither read nor write! He knew the works of his predecessors only from oral recitation; he had to dictate his own poems to the scribes. His "Parzival" is the picture of a human soul lifted to the level of inward peace and purity, not by the use of the Church's medicaments, but by a purely human discipline under the hand of God. He stands for the protest of the best thought of his age against the narrowing interpretation of God's ways with men into which the mediæval Church had fallen.

From 1348 to 1748, from the founding of Prague University to the acting of Lessing's first drama, is the Great Interregnum of German literature, in which Luther is the only first-class name for four whole centuries. There is a fair plenty of lesser lights,—Seb. Brand, Hans Sachs, Hutten, Seb. Franck, Fischart, Arndt, Opitz, Flemming, Scheffler, Spee, Logar, "Simplicissimus," Gerhardt, Rist, Schmoleke, Gottf. Arnold, Gottsched, Gellert, Bodmer, and Haller. They make up a thin line of light across a dark background, but thin indeed as compared with what went before these four centuries, and what was to come after. With Lessing the new era fairly opens, and Germany assumes a place in the literature of Europe second only to that of England. The story of the development of that marvelous hundred years which began with Lessing's *Der Junge Gelehrte*, has often been told, but never we think with truer perspective and sounder judgment than by Prof. Scherer. He does not attempt to bring it down to our own times; substantially he ends with the death of Goethe more than fifty years ago. And Goethe is the central figure of the story,—the German man of this later age as Luther of the Reformation period. As this implies, the purely literary interest predominates. It is literature for its own sake, not as an exponent of the life of the nation, that Professor Scherer calls for. Else the great author who was so utterly devoid of national sympathies in the era of his country's deepest abasement and noblest efforts, would not be placed so boldly in the forefront, to the complete subordination of men like Fichte, Koerner, E. M. Arndt, Schleiermacher and Niebuhr, who bore the burden and heat of the day. More space is given to one play of Goethe's than to all the writers who awakened Germany to a sense of her humiliation and her duty. For our part we think this a wrong and perverted method of writing literary history. History is the biography of nations. Literature has a history only because it reflects national life. Where any other standpoint is taken the result is an æsthetical treatise on a chronological scheme; but the word history should be avoided.

But assuming Prof. Scherer's method, it is hard to find fault with the result. He has done admirably what he set himself to do. And his translator has seconded his work in general very well. We notice a few slips which are due to a defective understanding of a German phrase. Thus the "*Englische Wochenblätter*," which Gottsched and his wife translated, were not "the English weekly papers," but what we call "The British Essayists"—the *Tatler*, the *Spectator*, etc.

R. E. T.

THE HUMBLER POETS; A COLLECTION OF NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL VERSE, 1870 TO 1885. By Slason Thompson. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co.

It is a pretty idea to gather together the waifs and strays of poetic fancy,—the poor children of the muse as it were,—on whom the hasty readers of papers and periodicals have bestowed merely the tribute of an indifferent glance. Even more than the poems of great poets, these occasional verses are apt to be the outcome of an individual need, a longing for expression of a thought that has lain deep down in the heart. What each tries to say has no doubt been better said already by some master of the art. "There are many echoes but few voices," Goethe remarks, and what the humbler poets do is to reproduce from the famous poems the images that have moved and the strains that have thrilled their hearts into an understanding of their own need of utterance. There is almost too much good poetry in the world already, since even lovers and students of the best poetry find a life-time too short to do more than master the full meaning of a single poet. Hence it seems almost a pity to afford a charm of perpetuation to verses which are feeble, inadequate in motion and expression, and deserve no lease of continued existence. There are a good many little poems in the present collection which could ill be spared and which we are glad to see preserved, but 450 large pages of closely printed matter are, under the most advantageous circumstances, a challenge to oblivion, and we could wish that the editor's hospitality to these foundlings of literature had been a little less generous. To mention half a dozen of the poems which seem to us sincere in motion, transparent and musical in language, and to a degree imaginative, we should name "Tired Mothers," (which is, in a certain element of reality and force not easily to be surpassed), "Sometimes," "Unfinished Still," "Dreams," "The Wanderer," "Rest," "If I should die to-night," and several of Bourdillon's. Most of these are, no doubt, deficient in joyousness and calm, and repeat in an almost painful degree the discord which twangs through human lives, jarring the sweetest intervals with its note of pain, and its suggestion of the spoiled conditions under which most of us have to accept existence. The fault of the minor poets is apt to be a morbid tone,—a want of vitality and hopefulness. The larger meanings of things escape their grasp, and a realization of the pettiness and inadequacy of human life is pressed upon our consciousness. Here, however, is a lyric with more of the upward sweep about it, although it comes from a homesick heart in Australia:

"Oh, for a breath o' the moorland,
A whiff o' the caller air,
For a smell o' the flowerin' heather
My very heart is sair.

"Oh, for the sound of the burnies
That whimple to the sea;
For the sight o' the browning bracken
On the hillside waving free!

"Oh, for the blue locks cradled
In the arms o' mountains gray,
That smile as they shadow the drifting clouds
A' the bonny summer day!

"Oh, for the tops o' mountains
White wi' eternal snaw;
For the mists that drift across the lift,
For the strong east winds that blow!

"I am sick o' the blazing sunshine
That burns through the weary hours,
Oh, the gaudy birds singing never a song,
O' beautiful scentless flowers.

"I wud gie a' the southern glory
For a taste o' a good sant wind,
Wi' a road ower the bonny sea before,
And a track o' foam behind.

Auld Scotland may be rugged,
Her mountains stern and bare;
But, oh for a breath o' her moorland,
A whiff o' her caller air!"

And here is another, the motive of which is in its way very pretty and gracefully rendered. It is called "En Voyage:"

Whichever way the wind doth blow
Some heart is glad to have it so;
Then, blow it east, or blow it west,
The wind that blows, that wind is best.

"My little craft sails not alone;
A thousand fleets from every zone
Are out upon a thousand seas;
What blows for one a favoring breeze
Might dash another with a shock
Of doom upon some hidden rock.

"And so I do not dare to pray
For winds to waft me on my way,
But leave it to a higher will
To stay or speed me, trusting still

That all is well, and sure that He
Who launched my bark will sail with me
Through storm and calm, and will not fail,
Whatever breezes may prevail
To land me, every peril past,
Within the sheltered haven at last.

"Then whatsoever wind doth blow,
My heart is glad to have it so;
And blow it east, or blow it west,
The wind that blows, that wind is best."

INDIAN SUMMER. A Novel. By William D. Howells. Ticknor & Co. Boston.

The task which Mr. Howells set himself in this novel is of a simpler kind than that which he chose in "A Modern Instance" and "The Rise of Silas Lapham," on which we may no doubt claim that his reputation chiefly rests. "Indian Summer" has ideas, too, but as against the searching study of family relations in "A Modern Instance" and the marvelous portraiture of "Silas Lapham," the work in this latest novel is slight. It seems, at first sight, slighter than it really is. So much depends upon the point of view. To judge it properly we are to clear our minds of all prepossessions for the methods of the strong books which preceded it, and to accept it simply for itself. "Indian Summer" may be called a demonstration of the difference between youth and middle age. *Theodore Colville*, the leading man, is at forty still young in spirit, and is rather than not disposed to vote himself as belonging among young people, until he forms an intimate relation with an undoubted young one, whereupon the emptiness of his claim to youth becomes apparent. Twenty years before the time of the tale *Colville* had had a serious affair of the heart, in which he was worsted; after this lapse of a double decade we find him back at Florence, where the early romance had been acted, and thrown accidentally into the company of a widow lady of his own age, who had been a friend of the girl who had jilted him, and who knew all the circumstances of that affair. Thus *Mrs. Bowen* and *Colville*, both being lonely and heart hungry, seem in a manner,—in the novel reader's light, that is to say,—providentially brought together, and they are very adequately matched; but the game becomes curiously crossed. With *Mrs. Bowen* comes also on the scene a charmer of the young generation, and before long the luckless *Colville* is in the toils of a second Florence engagement, not however, with the results of anger, bitterness and disenchantment of the first. He is a lover through circumstances rather than by intention, and, in the end, this romance, too, is violently closed, but to the satisfaction of all parties, and "Colville" marries the widow, the woman who suits him, who is suitable for him, and whom, if he had but known it, he had loved from the first. As we have said, this seems slighter than it really is. The art with which these conflicting passions, attractions, resentments, humors, are indicated is just as perfect as anything in the best of Mr. Howells's work. Especially engaging are *Colville's* easy-natured tolerance, as we may call it, of life; the intense enthusiasms of the girl, *Imogene Graham*; and the sweetness of the child *Effie*, who is the unconscious instrument, at the very close, of arranging matters in their proper shape. With these same figures Mr. Howells could doubtless have made an effective story by insisting more definitely on the relations between *Colville* and *Mrs. Bowen*; he has not chosen to do so, but has centred interest upon *Colville* and *Imogene*. It is very ingenious indeed, very humorous, very entertaining, but while the result may be true here, or may be even an all-around truth, the reader who knows much of men and women feels that the exceptions to the rule which Mr. Howells apparently lays down are so numerous as almost to invalidate the rule itself. There are hosts of people,—very good judges of the world, too,—who hold that 40:20 is a very reasonable proportion in marriageable years. It comes close to the Oliphant and Trollope gospel, and we are hardly at this day to disallow the authority of those august observers. Mr. Howells in his iteration of the elderliness of a man of forty becomes just a trifle tiresome. All the same "Indian Summer" is admirable; a book not to be easily matched.

THE HERO OF COWPENS. A REVOLUTIONARY SKETCH. By Rebecca McConkey. New York: Funk & Wagnalls.

This is a biography of General Daniel Morgan, with some added material relating to contemporary events in the Revolution, and particularly to the career of Arnold. It has portraits of Morgan and Arnold,—and what we do not precisely see the fitness of—one of Marion, inserted as the frontispiece to the work. The narrative is full, and presents a satisfactory, though somewhat florid, account of the Revolutionary struggle, with particular reference to the part Morgan took in it, the biography by James Graham, published thirty years ago, being substantially reproduced.

Mrs. (?) McConkey says in her opening chapter that "it is uncertain whether [Morgan] had his birthplace in New Jersey or Pennsylvania." This is a point upon which there need be no doubt. Morgan was a Pennsylvanian. His father, James Morgan, was engaged as a workman, for many years, at the furnace, (one of the earliest in the colonies), at Durham, in Bucks county, on the east bank of the Delaware, and there Daniel was born, in 1736. James Morgan and his wife Sarah were Welsh, belonging, either themselves or by their parentage, to that migration from Wales, the main parts of which reached Pennsylvania at various times between Penn's first visit and 1730. There are many Morgans in Philadelphia, (now Montgomery) county, as well as in Bucks, and when Daniel left home at 17, (about 1753), therefore his movement southward into the Shenandoah Valley was precisely that which scores of his kindred and neighbors were making at that time. The Boones, the Lincolns, and the Hankses had gone just before, and the tide flowed steadily from Eastern Pennsylvania to Virginia and North Carolina down to the time of the Revolution. The local records and traditions at Durham are enough, no doubt, as General Davis claims in his "History of Bucks County," to settle it that General Morgan was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and he was doubtless the most distinguished of the Welsh blood who served in the Revolutionary struggle.

VERSES. Translations from the German and Hymns. By W. H. Furness, D. D. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1886.

This little volume comprises translations from the German and some twenty hymns composed by Dr. Furness at various periods of his life, beginning as early as 1822. The translations are from familiar poems of well-known German authors,—Schiller's "Song of the Bell," Chamisso, Heine's magnificent "*Zwei Grenadiere*," and Lorelei, and half a score of Uhland's songs. The translations are sympathetic and faithful; and the hymns breathe a spirit of deep piety which is only the natural expression of Dr. Furness's beautiful life, and that loveliness and purity of character which have made him beloved by all who have been fortunate enough to be counted even among his acquaintances.

BRIEFER NOTICES.

"AN Apache Campaign in the Sierra Madre" is a brisk bit of military narrative, giving yet another proof that American soldiers can use the pen as well as the sword. The writer is Captain John G. Bourke, U. S. A., and the book has especial interest just now, in view of army movements against the Chiricahua Apaches, who have been committing "atrocities" in Arizona and New Mexico. Captain Bourke has rightly thought that the story of an expedition led by General Crook, in 1883, against the same savages, might have present value. Value of a kind it no doubt has,—though it would have greater, to our thinking, if Captain Bourke could see more clearly the Apache side of the contest. He is imbued apparently with the doctrine that the only good Indian is a dead Indian, and we hear little from him of the shameful breaches of faith by men who better knew the meaning of an obligation, and which inevitably led to the Apache "outrages." Rightly viewed, the story is very painful, but it was worth the telling. These sketches were originally printed in *Outing*, and in their present shape, and helped with some fair illustrations, they will give anyone interested a good idea of the military operations in Arizona. (Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.)

"The Chaldean Magician," by Ernst Eckstein, translated by Mary J. Safford, (W. S. Gottsberger, New York), is another of this author's ingenious attempts to rehabilitate the past. It tells an adventure in Rome in the days of the Emperor Diocletian, and no little skill is shown in the descriptions of scenery and natural objects, and in indicating peculiarities of speech, dress, and manners. But the general effect is—we will not say priggish, but—stilted; there is more of pedantry than nature in it; while the story itself, quite slight in texture, and devoted principally to showing up the tricks of the trade of priests and soothsayers, is not particularly interesting.

"A Crimson Stain," by Annie Bradshaw, (Cassell's "Rainbow Series"), is thought to have dignity added to it by giving it a pretence of historical backing and by making it an alleged social study. When all is done, however, it remains but a very tawdry piece of sensationalism. It assumes to record the horrors of a Spanish vendetta, but is morally hurtful while it is artistically weak.

"Morgan's Horror," by Geo. Manville Fenn, which Cassell & Co. have added to their "Rainbow" series, (an ugly cover the rainbow makes), has a somewhat novel feature. The villain who courts the young girl, who loves another, but who is urged by her father into the villain's arms, because of a secret with which the wicked one artfully threatens him,—this is all old enough, cer-

tainly, but the new feature comes in when the villain, having pushed the worthy lover from the top of a light-house down upon the rocks, ever so many feet below, is haunted by a negro mute, who is saved from a wreck near by, and whom the guilty one imagines may be the wraith of his victim. This is a neat turn, but the art of it is all spoiled by disclosing at the end that the black mysterious creature is the worthy lover, who wasn't dashed to pieces on the rocks, but went and blacked himself and got up this masquerade in color, and who cheerily marries the girl, after all, in a commonplace way. If the matter had been left in mystery, the novel would have been really somewhat novel.

ART NOTES.

NO sale of artistic treasures in this country ever attracted such general attention as that of the Morgan collection recently held in New York. Buyers and their representatives have attended from nearly every large city in America, and, what is more noticeable, agents of collectors and dealers in Europe have found it worth while to be present. Specialties in books, and in one or two occasions important pictures, have brought buyers from the other side of the ocean, but this Morgan sale affords the first instance on record of general international competition in an art sale. Philadelphia interest in the sale has centered in the excellent examples of Corot and of Rousseau which it was hoped or rather wished might be secured for this city. Mr. Gibson is the only picture buyer left in this community at all likely to take part in competition for master-pieces of art, and he already has good examples of each of these painters, but there has been some little expectation, whether reasonable or not, that an effort might be made to obtain at least one of these pictures for the Academy of the Fine Arts. Either of the Corots, it is admitted by concurrent authority, fairly illustrates that great artist at his best, and the Rousseau is second only to the evening landscape in the collection of Mr. W. T. Walters, which landscape is justly regarded as Rousseau's *chef d'œuvre*. To study either of these works, and especially to try and copy either, would afford the pupils lessons of incalculable value as to the resources at the command of the great masters, and as to due humility respecting their own abilities.

The sale of Mrs. Morgan's pictures began on Wednesday evening. The attendance was good. On that evening eighty pictures were sold for an aggregate of \$171,200. The highest prices were \$16,525 for Meissonier's "In the Library," sold to Charles Crocker, of San Francisco; \$9,000 for a landscape by Corot; \$8,000 for "Coast near Villius," by Constantine Troyon. Twenty-seven other pictures brought over \$2,000 each. They were mostly by French artists. D. R. Knight's "Noonday Repast," at \$1,350, was the best sale of the work of an American.

The artists' reception at the Academy of Fine Arts, which will be held in the galleries on the 16th inst., will bring together an important collection of new pictures. Nearly all the Philadelphia painters of note will be represented, and from present indications it is fair to presume that at least two galleries will be hung with contributions selected from studio work of the past winter. The reception is given by the Philadelphia society of artists which, though a professional organization, has many lay members who are taking an active part in making the occasion socially as well as artistically interesting.

The movement to establish an art club in this city progresses deliberately but steadily, those who are concerned in it being satisfied to go forward in this way. As noted, a circular letter was sent out two weeks since to gentlemen likely to take an interest in such a club, and at present writing about one hundred and seventy-five favorable replies have been received. The next step in order will be to call a meeting of those who have responded affirmatively, for the purpose of forming a preliminary organization. It is probable that such a meeting will be called next week, when, if the attendance is anything like what may be justly expected, the undertaking will be fairly inaugurated. The project, like the Reading reorganization plan, is still held in a "flexible" state, and may be radically modified when the gentlemen who are to carry it into execution come together and exchange views, but the main purpose of cultivating a better appreciation of art and a wider interest in artistic culture will be kept prominently in view. There are many strong names on the list of promised members, and there is every reason to look for practical results of value from the endeavor to which they are committed.

The Academy Art Club, though limited in its membership, and confined to a comparatively narrow range in its purposes, is one of the most useful organizations of the kind the city has known for many years. It is composed of academy students and graduates, and has for its leading object study and discussion, especially of the literature of art. The promotion of fellowship and

a social spirit, though a second consideration, receives much effective attention, and many attractive entertainments are given in an informal, impromptu fashion, all the more original, varied and interesting because the lady members as well as the gentlemen take part in designing and providing them. The session of the club this week was held at Miss Alice Barber's studio, and was devoted to the consideration of Rubens and his works, with an abundance of excellent photographic illustrations.

SCIENCE NOTES.

MR. GLADSTONE has written a rejoinder to Prof. Huxley's article in the *Nineteenth Century*, in which the Professor had severely criticised Mr. Gladstone's strictures on a recently published work by M. Réville, asserting that the geological record was inconsistent with the account of creation given in Genesis, and that therefore the theory of the divine inspiration of the bible was untenable. In this rejoinder Mr. Gladstone yields the point raised concerning minor discrepancies, but maintains that the account in Genesis is broadly correct nevertheless, and shows a knowledge which, in the condition of science at the time it was written, could only have been derived from supernatural sources. "Difficulties of detail," he says, "such as may (or ultimately may not) be found to exist in the Proem to Genesis, have much the same relation to the evidence of revealed knowledge in this record, as the spots in the sun to his all-unfolding and sufficing light. But as to the Mosaic writer himself, all I presume to accept is the fact that he put upon undying record, in this portion of his work, a series of particulars which, interpreted in the growing light of modern knowledge, require from us, on the whole, as reasonable men, the admission that we do not see how he could have written them, and that in all likelihood he did not write them, without aid from the guidance of a more than human power. It is in this guidance, and not necessarily or uniformly in the consciousness of the writer, that, according to my poor conception, the idea of Revelation mainly lies."

The house of the near future, the *Boston Journal of Commerce* thinks, will have no fireplace, steam pipes, chimneys, or flues. Wood, coal oil, and other forms of fuel are about to disappear altogether in places having factories. Gas has become so cheap that already it is supplanting fuels. A single jet fairly heats a small room in cold weather. A New York artist has produced a simple design for heating entirely by gas at a mere nominal expense. It is a well-known fact that gas throws off no smoke, soot, or dirt. The artist filled a brazier with chunks of colored glass, and placed several jets beneath. The glass soon became heated sufficiently to thoroughly warm a room 10x30 feet in size. This design does away with the necessity for chimneys, since there is no smoke; the ventilation may be had at the window. The heat may be raised or lowered by simply regulating the flow of gas. The colored glass gives all the appearance of fire; there are black pieces to represent coal, red chunks for flames, yellowish white glass for white heat, blue glass for blue flames, and hues for all the remaining colors of spectrum. Invention already is displacing the present fuels for furnaces and cooking ranges, and glass doing away with delay and such disagreeable objects as ashes, kindling wood, etc.

In reviewing the history of architectural brass-work the *Builders' Weekly Reporter* of London, England, says: It is a very singular fact in economic history that metallic alloys were in common use at a very early period. Of course, when once the principle of producing a compound metal was discovered (probably by accident), it was much easier to smelt the ores of copper and tin, and subsequently amalgamate the metals into an alloy, than it was to smelt the far more intractable ores of iron, which required a powerful blast to reduce them. Hence bronze was one of the earliest used of the metals, and subsequently its employment was of the widest range. The early Phoenicians were the earliest bronze workers during the historic period. The Etruscans of Northern Italy were at least equally celebrated. Bronze weapons and tools were used by the Egyptians, the Assyrians, the Trojans, the Greeks, the Romans, the Carthaginians, in fact over the whole of the ancient world. But common as was bronze, the early world does not appear to have had any knowledge of the compound metal which we term "brass." This, doubtless, resulted from the fact that zinc was entirely, or almost entirely, unknown. The later Romans knew of it and used it, most certainly, for coins and works of art are extant of brass.

At the last meeting of the Manchester Geological Society, Mr. Clifford, mining engineer, of Sheffield, submitted an improved lamp, the distinguishing feature of which was that the air strikes the outer skin at an angle, and by this arrangement only sufficient to feed the wick enters the flame chamber. Gauze is dispensed with, but a perforated metal disc, faced with a fusible alloy, is so

placed that, after long exposure of the flame to gas, or when gas enters the lamp at a high velocity, the alloy fuses, the supply of air is cut off, and the flame goes out. Mr. Clifford also described an apparatus he contrived to test safety lamps. On one occasion, he said, his lamps remained for about half an hour in a gaseous mixture, while a Mueseler lamp exploded almost as soon as put in.

"The first mention we find of the coal deposits of the United States" says the *Industrial World*, "is in the records of the travels of Father L. Hennepin; in this work, printed in 1698, he mentions a coal-mine, at about where is the present city of Ottawa, Illinois. The explorer La Salle calls Hennepin some pretty hard names for his pretended discoveries, but there can be no question about the fact of coal existing at the point named. In 1750 the bituminous coal of the Richmond, Va., basin was used, and for many years it was the sole reliance of the Atlantic coast for black-smith fuel, in fact until 1845. In 1768 anthracite coal was known and used in Pennsylvania, and by its use the patriots of 1776 were enabled to forge the implements of warfare."

The Canadian government has adopted for its telegraph lines on the northwestern prairies a pole constructed of malleable galvanized iron, 1½ inches in diameter at the top and 2½ inches in diameter at the bottom, which weighs less than fifty pounds. The bottom of the pole is set into a claw-plate, upon which the earth is closely packed to a height of about two feet. Then another plate is put into place around the pole, and the earth is packed upon it to a level of the ground. The claw-plates take a hold in the ground at once, so that the poles become solidly fixed immediately after being set, which desideratum is only obtained by the ordinary wooden pole after it has been in the ground for at least a year. A recent test is said to have shown the great strength of the pole, as a heavy No. 6 government wire was strung, and the poles subjected to the greatest possible strain, without moving them in the least.

A French gentleman residing at Mendoza, in the Argentine Republic, gives a graphic description in *La Nature* of the earthquake that took place there on the 30th of March, 1885, at about half past ten in the evening. He was reading and smoking, when one of the sashes of his window opened all at once and immediately closed again with noise. He thought a dog had come in through the window, and bent over to look for the intruder under his desk. The window opened again, and he was obliged to hold on to his desk, while his chair leaned over with him. He straightened himself again, and was thrown to the right. At the same time his jaws came together and he bit off his pipe-stem, while he felt a pain in the pit of his stomach, like that of sea-sickness. Then the thought occurred to him that it was an earthquake. Six seconds afterwards he heard a noise like that of a distant locomotive letting off steam, followed by the howling of dogs and the noise of the wind through the plantain trees. Then he saw the angle of the wall veer slowly to the left, then return to its place, so speedily that he was scared and ran to the door to get out. The door would not open. The dogs kept on howling louder than ever. He burst the door open, and, running out, found all the people in the streets, mostly in their night-dresses. Three violent shocks were felt. The writer of the account believes that a fourth shock would have destroyed the town. The sky was afterward obscured with fog; and, for thirty seconds after the last shock, a subterranean noise was heard like the rumbling of a railroad train in the distance.

The *Scientific American* thinks that the agitation in regard to the cruelties practiced on animals has been rather overdone through ignorance of the nature of pain, which, it insists, depends essentially upon the mind and not upon the nerves. All animals of lower grade than human suffer very much less pain from physical injuries than our own sensations convey to us. We can readily see the proof of this in their habitual actions. Many of the starfishes detach parts of their arms, at the very smallest provocation, and remain uninjured by the change or loss. A fish which has torn away the hook from a line in its struggling to escape will take the bait again as soon as its fright has passed off, and while the hook still remains in the jaw which it has perforated. A fawn whose foreleg was wounded by a shot, had it amputated without anæsthetics, and gave scarcely a sign of pain. Coming still higher, we recognize the fact, which is perfectly well known, that savages of the human race pay small attention to injuries. Again, every surgeon sees convincing proof in his daily experience that the sensitiveness of his various patients varies so widely that there must be some cause for it beyond that which is physical. There is no such wide diversity in the nerve tissue of their systems as can account for the extreme differences with which they not only manifest pain, but with which they doubtless feel it. The conclusion is that though the transmission of pain is dependent on nerve fibres only, its seat and origin are beyond, and are truly not physical at all. Pain is mental.

THE CHOICE OF BOOKS.¹

SIR.—Several points have been left out of consideration, both by you and by Sir John Lubbock, in your recent inquiries and advices concerning books. Especially Sir John, in his charming description of the pleasures of reading for the nineteenth century, leaves curiously out of mention its miseries; and among the various answers sent to the *Pall Mall* I find nobody laying down, to begin with, any one canon or test by which a good book is to be known from a bad one.

Neither does it seem to enter into the respondent minds to ask, in any case, whom, or what the book is to be good for—young people or old, sick or strong, innocent or worldly—to make the giddy sober, or the grave gay. Above all, they do not distinguish between books for the laborer and the schoolman; and the idea that any well-conducted mortal life could find leisure enough to read a hundred books would have kept me wholly silent on the matter, but that I was fain, when you sent me Sir John's list, to strike out, for my own pupils' sake, the books I would forbid them to be plagued with.

For, of all the plagues that afflict mortality, the venom of a bad book to weak people, and the charms of a foolish one to simple people, are without question the deadliest; and they are so far from being redeemed by the too imperfect work of the best writers, that I never would wish to see a child taught to read at all, unless the other conditions of its education were alike gentle and judicious.

And to put the matter into anything like tractable order at all, you must first separate the scholar from the public. A well-trained gentleman should, of course, know the literature of his own country, and half-a-dozen classics thoroughly, glancing at what else he likes; but, unless he wishes to travel or to receive strangers, there is no need for his troubling himself with the language or literature of modern Europe. I know French pretty well myself. I never recollect the gender of anything, and don't know more than the present indicative of any verb; but with a dictionary I can read a novel,—and the result is my wasting a great deal of time over Scribe, Dumas, and Gaboriau, and becoming a weaker and more foolish person in all manner of ways therefore. French scientific books are, however, out and out the best in the world; and, of course, if a man is to be scientific, he should know both French and Italian. The best German books should at once be translated into French, for the world's sake, by the French Academy;—Mr. Lowell is altogether right in pointing out that nobody with respect for his eyesight can read them in the original.

I have no doubt there is a great deal of literature in the East, in which people who live in the East, or travel there, may be rightly interested. I have read three or four pages of the translation of the Koran, and never want to read any more; the Arabian Nights many times over, and much wish, now, I had been better employed.

As for advice to scholars in general, I do not see how any modest scholar could venture to advise another. Every man has own field, and can only by his own sense discover what is good for him in it. I will venture, however, to protest, somewhat sharply, against Sir John's permission to read any book fast. To do anything fast—that is to say at a greater rate than that at which it can be done well—is a folly; but of all follies reading fast is the least excusable. You miss the points of a book by doing so, and misunderstand the rest.

Leaving the scholar to his discretion, and turning to the public, they fall at first into the broad classes of workers and idlers. The whole body of modern circulating library literature is produced for the amusement of the families so daintily pictured in *Punch*—mamma lying on a sofa showing her pretty feet—and the children delightfully teasing the governess, and nurse, and maid, and footman—the close of the day consisting of state-dinner and reception. And Sir John recommends these kind of people to read Homer, Dante, and Epictetus! Surely the most beneficent and innocent of all books yet produced for them is the Book of Nonsense, with its corollary carols?—inimitable and refreshing, and perfect in rhyme. I really don't know any author to whom I am half so grateful, for my idle self, as Edward Lear. I shall put him first of my hundred authors.

Then there used to be Andersen, but he has been minced up and washed up, and squeezed up, and rolled out, till one knows him no more. Nobody names him, of the omnilegent judges; but a pure edition of him, gaily illustrated, would be a treasure anywhere—perhaps even to the workers, whom it is hard to please.

But I did not begin this talk to recommend anything, but to ask you to give me room to answer questions, of which I receive many by letter, why I effaced such and such books from Sir John's list.

1. *Grote's History of Greece*.—Because there is probably no commercial establishment, between Charing-cross and the Bank, whose head clerk could not write a better one, if he had the vanity to waste his time on it.

2. *Confessions of St. Augustine*.—Because religious people nearly always think too much about themselves; and there are many saints whom it is much more desirable to know the history of. St. Patrick to begin with—especially in present times.

3. *John Stuart Mill*.—Sir John Lubbock ought to have known that his day was over.

4. *Charles Kingsley*.—Because his sentiment is false, and his tragedy frightful. People who buy cheap clothes are not punished in real life by catching fevers; social inequalities are not to be redressed by tailors falling in love with bishop's daughters, or gamekeepers with squires; and the story of "Hypatia" is the most ghastly in Christian tradition, and should forever have been left in silence.

5. *Darwin*.—Because it is every man's duty to know what he is, and not to think of the embryo he was, nor the skeleton that he shall be. Because, also, Darwin has a mortal fascination for all vainly curious and idly speculative persons, and has collected, in the train of him, every impudent imbecility in Europe, like a dim comet wagging its useless tail of phosphorescent nothing across the steadfast stars.

6. *Gibbon*.—Primarily, none but the malignant and the weak study the Decline and Fall either of State or organism. Dissolution and putrescence

¹From the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

are alike common and unclean in all things; any wretch or simpleton may observe for himself, and experience himself, the process of ruin; but good men study, and wise men describe, only the growth and standing of things,—not their decay.

For the rest, Gibbon's is the worst English that was ever written by an educated Englishman. Having no imagination and little logic, he is alike incapable either of picturesqueness or wit: his epithets are malicious without point, sonorous without weight, and have no office but to make a flat sentence turgid.

7. *Voltaire*.—His work is, in comparison with good literature, what nitric acid is to wine, and sulphuretted hydrogen to air. Literary chemists cannot but take account of the sting and stench of him; but he had no place in the library of a thoughtful scholar. Every man of sense knows more of the world than Voltaire can tell him; and what he wishes to express of such knowledge he will say without a snarl.

I cannot enter here into another very grave and wide question which neither the *Pall Mall* nor its respondents ask,—respecting literature for the young—but will merely point out one total want in the present confused supply of it—that of intelligible books on natural history. I chanced at breakfast the other day, to wish I knew something of the biography of a shrimp, the rather that I was under the impression of having seen jumping shrimps on a sandy shore express great satisfaction in their life.

My shelves are loaded with books on natural history, but I could find nothing about shrimps except that "they swim in the water, or lie upon the sand in shoals, and are taken in multitudes for the table."

JOHN RUSKIN.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

IT is said that during the last six years forty books have been written by members of the Yale faculty. Vice-Presidents to the New English Goethe Society are Miss Anna Swanwick, and Messrs. Matthew Arnold, J. S. Blackie, Edward Dowden, James Russell Lowell, Max Müller and J. R. Seeley. Joseph Boyd, Dayton, Ohio, has issued the "Ohio Teacher's Blue Book," containing the names and addresses of over 2100 officers and members of School Boards, Department clerks, etc., and of more than 4500 teachers now in service. Valuable materials for a biography of the late Horatio Seymour exist in his political papers, now in the possession of his nephew and prospective editor, Horatio Seymour, Jr.

The first portion of the work upon which it was announced many months ago that Prince Ibrahim-Himly was engaged has at length been issued by Messrs. Trübner & Co. "The magnitude of the task essayed by the compiler," says the London *Bookseller* "may be better understood by the statement that the bibliography covers several thousand years. It was designed to include the most ancient fragments of papyrus to be found in the museums of Europe; Greek, Coptic, and Arabic manuscripts, down to the most recent works of European authors of every nationality. Although in this instalment the alphabet of names is carried no further than 'Lyt,' the materials fill a quarto volume of three hundred and ninety-eight pages set in double columns. The arrangement is that known as the 'dictionary plan,' with cross-references from titles to authors."

Thomas Whittaker, N. Y., has published a "Lenten List," comprising books suitable for reading in the season of Lent, manuals on the communion books for confirmation of candidates, etc.—Edward Fuller, of the editorial staff of the Boston *Traveller*, has written a novel called "Fellow-Travellers," which Sampson Low & Co., will publish.—W. M. Rossetti writes the *Athenaeum* that the Shelley Society now numbers about one hundred members, and that "local honorary secretaries" are at work in the Society's interests at Manchester and Hackney.

Herr Adolf Hansen, whose translations from Tennyson, Swinburne, and Shelley have been excellent, has just completed no less important a work than a version of the whole of Shakespeare's Sonnets into Danish. In an acute prefatory essay he has analyzed the existing literature on this subject. The volume, which is published at the Gyldendalske Boghandel in Copenhagen, is one of the most important contributions to the study of Shakespeare abroad which has been published for some time past.

Andrews & Witherby, Ann Arbor, Mich., will publish for the Department of Philosophy of the University of Michigan a collection of monographs relating to various philosophical subjects, or aiming at a philosophical treatment of miscellaneous topics. The first series, to be issued during the present year, will consist of the following papers and addresses, delivered before the Philosophical Society of the University: "University Education," by Prof. G. S. Morris; "Goethe and the Conduct of Life," by Prof. Calvin Thomas; "Educational Value of Different Studies," by Prof. W. H. Payne; "Philosophy and Literature," by Prof. B. C. Burt; and "Herbert Spencer as a Biologist," by Prof. H. Sewell.

Prof. Hardy, of Dartmouth, the author of "But Yet a Woman," is soon to publish another novel.—"Frank's Ranch," which has gone into its second edition, although published anonymously is now known to be the work of Edward Marston, partner of Sampson Low, the London publisher.—Robert Stowell Ball, Astronomer Royal of Ireland, and author of "The Story of the Heavens," has just been knighted.

The late Henry Bradshaw, Fellow of Kings College, Cambridge, was esteemed the greatest authority in the world on Chaucer. The French Académie des Sciences has assigned the grand prize of 15,000 francs to the missionary Father Zotoli, for the best work on Chinese literature.

The latest issues in Cassell's National Library are Izaak Walton's "Complete Angler," and Mackenzie's "Man of Feeling."

The late Rev. Dr. Cummings, of Concord, N. H., is reported to have left his large and valuable library to Colby Academy, New London.—Mr. J. W. Clark has at last nearly completed his work on the colleges at Cambridge. The third volume is all but finished, and a short introduction will conclude this laborious undertaking.

Mr. Woolner's new poem, like Lord Tennyson's recent one, is entitled, "Tiresias." The title however, is the only resemblance it bears to the

laureate's work.—Mr. Froude says that Mr. Ormsby's translation of "Don Quixote" surpasses all previous translations, and is the first which has made the book intelligible to ordinary readers.

General Grant's book, in the opinion of the *Atlantic Monthly*, is turning out to be one of the memorable books of the world. The publishers, Messrs. C. L. Webster & Co., cause it to be known that they have paid Mrs. Grant, as part of the royalty due her on the first volume, \$200,000, and they expect that the whole royalty may reach half a million. A very careful index is in preparation, and the second volume, it is stated, may be expected about the 1st of April.

A writer in the *Alta California* claims that the real writer of "The Dodge Club," and associated novels, was not James De Mille, as has been always alleged, but a Californian named John M. Creighton, who engaged De Mille to edit the stories and procure publishers for them. The evidence is not very conclusive.—Mr. Walter Scott, the London publisher, announces a companion series to "The Canterbury Poets," entitled, "The Camelot Classics," to be issued in shilling monthly volumes. The series will be edited by William Rhys, who has written a general introduction, to appear in the first volume, "King Arthur and the Holy Grail."

Messrs. Ward, Lock & Co., contemplate a popular series of reprints, after the manner of Cassell & Co.'s new "National Library." The aim is to include the choicer literary treasures to be found in the English language—at the low price of threepence, or sixpence bound in cloth. The introductions will, in many cases, be contributed by eminent authorities.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

THE new magazine, *The Forum*, which appeared with so complete an absence of pre-announcement, is a monthly, of one hundred pages, issued from New York, by the Forum Publishing Company, under the editorial charge of Mr. L. S. Metcalf, who was for some years managing editor of the *North American Review*. The first number contains articles on "Science and the State," by Prof. Alexander Winchell; "Newspapers Gone to Seed," by James Parton; "Domestic Service," by Edwin P. Whipple; "Is Romanism a Baptised Paganism?" by Rev. Dr. R. H. Newton; "How I was Educated," by Edward E. Hale; "Vulcan, or Mother Earth?" by Bishop A. Cleveland Coxe; "The Coming Man," by Dr. Wm. A. Hammond; "My Religious Experience," by Rev. M. J. Savage; and "Shall Our Laws be Enforced?" by Chancellor Howard Crosby. These titles, with the authorship, show the scope of the new publication, which is ambitious, resembling somewhat the *North American Review*, but more nearly the old *International Review*. The contributors appear to be almost exclusively New York people, with some aid from Boston, and it must be admitted that "the cloth" is well represented, five of the nine being of that garb, with Winchell and Parton serving, however, as a counteracting influence. The second issue of the magazine (April), is to have an article on Labor, by Andrew Carrigan, and others by "Gail Hamilton," Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and O. B. Frothingham.

The *Yale Literary Magazine*, established in 1836 by Wm. M. Evarts and four classmates, commemorates its semi-centennial in the March number, by articles from a number of its former editors, including Mr. Evarts, Donald G. Mitchell, (Ik Marvel), Professor C. A. Lyman, Charlton T. Lewis, Professor T. R. Lounsbury, Professor E. R. Sill, Andrew D. White, Daniel C. Gilman, and Hon. W. W. Croapo. It is said to be, now, not only the "oldest college periodical" but also the oldest monthly of any sort in America.

The number of collegiate periodicals of the serious and scientific sort, to which the powerful example of Johns Hopkins has given rise, becomes large. It is now announced that a quarterly review, to be edited by the faculty of political science in Columbia College, N. Y., will be issued by Messrs. Ginn & Co.

The opening paper in the March *Century* is the first instalment of Mr. and Mrs. Pennell's "Italy from a Tricycle." The trip was from Florence to Rome, and Mrs. P. describes, while her husband's characteristic pictures illustrate the text. The frontispiece to this issue of the magazine is a portrait of Castelar, the Spanish Republican.

The second issue (March), of the *New Princeton Review* opens with an article on "Gray," by James Russell Lowell, and has an article without name, presumably by the editor, on "Federal Aid in Education," which sets out strongly the need for help to the South in lifting the load of illiteracy, and then shrinks back from its own conclusions in anxiety over the "precedent" of using general funds by distributive methods, as if this precedent had not been made half a century ago, and by some of the very men who were most strenuous advocates of States' Rights. The department "Criticisms, Notes, and Reviews" has an interesting variety of matter. The publishers of the *New Princeton*, Messrs. A. C. Armstrong & Son, announce that the success of the periodical has been very gratifying. They doubt if in the history of any a more rapid increase of circulation can be noted.

Mr. Warner's "Their Pilgrimage," to be begun in the April *Harper's*, is not a novel, although there is a story running through it. It is a series of character sketches made at American summer resorts.

The story that Mr. Goldwin Smith is to leave Canada and take up his residence in England, is authoritatively denied; nor has he disposed of his interest in *The Week*, at Toronto.

In spite of having assumed the editorship of the London *Daily News*, it is stated that Mr. H. W. Lucy will continue to contribute the "Essence of Parliament" to *Punch*.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

INDIAN SUMMER. By William D. Howells. Pp. 395. \$1.50. Boston: Ticknor & Co. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

VERSES: TRANSLATIONS FROM THE GERMAN AND HYMNS. By W. H. Furness. Pp. 88. \$1.25. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE HERO OF COWPENS. A REVOLUTIONARY SKETCH. By Rebecca McConkey. Pp. 295. \$—. New York: Funk & Wagnalls.

SNOW-BOUND AT EAGLE'S. By Bret Harte. Pp. 213. \$1.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

MORGAN'S HORROR. A Romance of the "West Countree." By Geo. Manville Fenn. (Cassell's "Rainbow Series" of Novels.) Pp. 192. \$0.25. New York: Cassell & Co. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

ADAM HEPBURN'S VOW. A Tale of Kirk and Covenant. By Annie S. Swan. Pp. 244. \$1.00. New York: Cassell & Co. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.)

CARINE. Par Louis Enault. (Contes Choisis.) Pp. 181. \$0.25. New York: W. R. Jenkins.

RELIGION IN A COLLEGE: WHAT PLACE IT SHOULD HAVE. By James McCosh, President of Princeton College. [Pamphlet.] Pp. 22. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son.

WE TWO. A Novel. By Edna Lyall, author of "Donovan." Pp. 403. \$1.40. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

THE ALIENS. A Novel. By Henry F. Keenan. Pp. 453. \$—. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

THE MAMMALIA IN THEIR RELATION TO PRIMEVAL TIMES. By Oscar Schmidt. (International Scientific Series.) Pp. 308. \$—. New York: D. Appleton & Co. (Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.)

CARMINA SANCTORUM. A Selection of Hymns and Songs of Praise, with Tunes. Edited by Roswell Dwight Hitchcock, Zachary Eddy, Lewis Ward Mudge. Pp. 447. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.

DRIFT.

—The Manchester Philosophical and Literary Society possesses, says the *Chemical News*, a microscopic slide containing the Lord's prayer, written within the space of the four-hundred-and-five-thousandth part of an inch. To find this minute speck requires the exercise of much patience, as it is not only necessary to have just the right kind of illumination, but the focus of the lens must be on the true surface of the glass on which the object is written. When once seen with a low power, it is not difficult to find with the same power; but with the half-inch and higher powers it is always a trial of patience, even when the position of the object has been carefully registered with a lower power and you are sure that the object is central in the field. Perhaps with the achromatic condenser some of the difficulty may be removed. This wonderfully minute object was written, or rather engraved, by Mr. Webb, years ago, by the aid of an instrument now in the possession of the society. Webb was accustomed to write the Lord's prayer in spaces of the five-hundredth to the ten-thousandth of an inch, and, as has been seen, to the four-hundred-and-five-thousandth.

—The following information concerning journalism in America is credited to a newspaper of Berlin: "It is incredible to what expedients American newspapers resort to gain a point over a competitor. Three catable papers, printed on sugar cakes flattened out, appear at present in America; two on rolled chewing tobacco, five on fly paper, one on porous plaster, and seven on linen handkerchiefs. Three publishers have each of their subscribers photographed yearly, and make them a present of a dozen photos, several give them a free burial, five invite them to dinner once a week, and 261 give each a doctor's certificate."

—"A while ago," said a well known Buffalonian yesterday, "I had a lawsuit in Chicago. Just after the case was called my lawyer called me out and asked if I knew the man who sat near me in the court room. I said I did not; never saw him before. 'Well' said the lawyer, 'do you want him for a witness?' 'No' I answered, 'what do I want him for? I never saw him before in my life. Who is he?' 'He's a professional perjurer,' the lawyer replied, 'and will swear to anything you tell him to. I didn't think you wanted him, but I thought I'd let you know.' The case went to trial without the perjurer, and I lost it."—*Buffalo Courier*.

—It is proposed to erect a new co-operative nail mill at Bay View, Milwaukee. The capital stock is fixed at \$100,000, in shares of \$20 each. The inaugurators propose to start with a nail-plate mill, 36 machines, furnaces, etc. Every workman must be a stockholder or obligate himself to acquire stock. In case of strikes elsewhere it is agreed that the co-operative mill shall continue in operation, the men receiving the scale of wages obtaining previous to the strike. In case of stock being for sale it shall first be offered to the stockholders. If it is not taken it passes into the hands of the company, the profits or loss being assessed to the stockholders.

—Our English cousins are reported to have hit upon a novel idea in house decoration. It is to have autograph productions of popular authors, in prose and verse, mounted and framed and hung around the pictures on their walls. As this is now one of the fashionable whims in London, it may be expected to make its advent on this side of the water at any time. I am free to say that the fancy does not strike me as consistent with the true theory of household decoration, which is to brighten up the walls with articles that are beautiful, or at least ornamental. It is not easy to see that there is anything ornamental in the handwriting of an author, however meritorious his production may be, considered merely from a literary standpoint. Indeed, it must be evident that if the ornamental in penmanship is the thing desired, the productions of the "commercial colleges" would have a decided advantage over those of Tennyson or Lowell. Good poetry and prose are excellent things to have in the house, but I question the purity or permanency of the taste which proposes to hang them up in frames on the walls.—*Chicago Evening Journal*.

—In the last number of *Præterita*, Mr. Ruskin, the English critic, discourses on the opera and the theatre. He complains that Mozart and Rossini are now never heard at all, owing to the detestable quickening of the time. Grisi and Malibran, he says, sang at least a third slower than the modern singers. The last time he heard Patti, he declares, she massacred the part of Zerlina in "Don Giovanni," and hurried through the beautiful "La Ci Darem" as if her only object was to leave the place as early as possible.

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The Magazine of American History,

In its current (February) number, discusses many topics of fresh and living interest. Not least among these will be found the elegantly illustrated and timely article of

FREDERIC G. MATHER on "The City of Albany: Two Hundred Years of Progress." In July of the present year the bi-centennial of the picturesque old State capital will be celebrated, thus it is none too early to familiarize ourselves with its varied and significant history. Albany has always occupied an important position, not only in relation to the development of New York but of the whole country, as will be learned from Mr. Mather's instructive presentation of the subject.

GENERAL JOHN WATTS DE PEYSTER contributes a brilliant paper on "Anthony Wayne" to the series of *Prominent Men of the Revolutionary Period*. He draws suggestive and pertinent comparisons between the men and the battles of the Revolution and our late Civil War, and illustrates in clear, forcible diction, how the armies in these two great American conflicts followed the same or similar lines of movement. This chapter is one of surpassing interest to all military men as well as to historical scholars.

DR. PROSPER BENDER treats of the *Disintegration of Canada*, touching upon the political difficulties of our neighbors with a master pen, and giving expression to the idea, which is gaining strength and consequence, of wholesale political change in the Dominion—in other words, annexation to the United States. This admirably written and important paper will command the thoughtful and serious attention of every intelligent American reader.

MR. A. W. CLASON adds another article to his scholarly analysis of the Constitution, entitled "The Charleston Convention of 1788," and it is one of the most readable and valuable in his whole series of studies on the history of the great document, so far as published.

J. McDONALD OXLEY, LL.B., B.A., of Ottawa, writes charmingly of the "Historic Aspects of *Sable Island*," a theme of unique and thrilling interest, and one which has never before been so agreeably handled. The shape and situation of this famous Island, and whatever concerns its remote and romantic history, is here painted in imperishable colors.

MR. A. A. HAYES contributes a stirring chapter to the *Civil War Studies*, entitled "The New-Mexican Campaign of 1862," which abounds in fresh and curious historic material, showing how the Confederate leaders sought the capture of California not far from the time that Forts Henry and Donelson fell.

MAJ. WILLIAM HOWARD MILLS, U.S.A., gives a spirited account of the reorganization of "The Army of the Potomac under Hooker." Major Mills has taken much pains to verify all his statements, and his work will be of permanent value. President Lincoln's letter, which he gives in full in this article, is a priceless treasure.

GENERAL WM. FARRAR ("BALDY") SMITH writes a noteworthy letter to the Editor, under the title of "Burnside Relieved," furnishing some highly interesting data in connection with Major Mills' article in the January number, and the correspondence between himself and General Burnside in relation to certain events under critical discussion.

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